Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The great state of South Dakota is defined by the strength of its individuals, especially by those who assume leadership roles and those who step into positions of prominence when addressing issues of local, state and regional importance; and,

Whereas, Charles Ekstrum is a native South Dakotan who was born and raised south of Kimball, and who graduated from South Dakota State University in 1962, and after serving in the Marine Corps, began an illustrious banking career in 1964 with the Farmer's Home Administration; and,

Whereas, Charles started employment with First National Bank in Philip in 1968 and was named president in 1975, graduating from the Graduate School of Banking/University of Wisconsin in 1976, and becoming president of South Dakota Bankers Association in 1983; and,

Whereas, Under Charles' leadership, the First National Bank in Philip grew from $7 million in assets to over $100 hundred million in assets and became one of the premier agricultural banks in the state; and,

Whereas, Charles has spent much of his adult life in public service, capably serving on the following boards and commissions: State Advisory Committee to the Farmers Home Administration, State Retirement Board, Director for Industry and Commerce of South Dakota, Director for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, South Dakota Banking Commission, Director of Banc Insure, and Director for South Dakota State University Foundation; and,

Whereas, Charles has made rural health care one of his life's passions, serving on the Board of Directors of Philip Health Services with many of those years as chairman; and for his role in leading an effort to complete a $3 million hospital expansion and renovation, Charles was awarded the 2001 Distinguished Trustee Award given by the South Dakota Hospital and Health Commission; and,

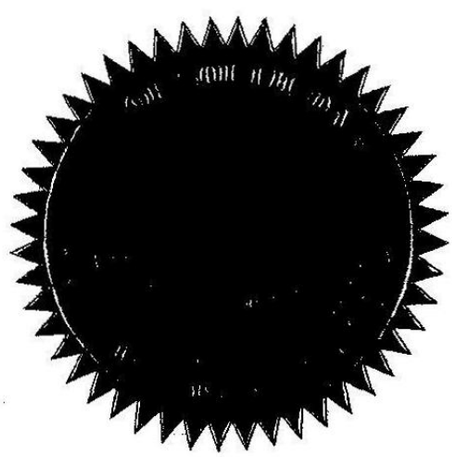
Whereas, Standing by Charles' side has been his wife of 35 years, Nancy Ekstrum, and children, Chris of Sioux Falls and Kaarin of Jackson, Wyoming; and,

Whereas, Charles Ekstrum has been an outstanding citizen of Philip for 40 years and has been a sterling example of service to the people of this area and this state:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2004, as

CHARLES W. EKSTRUM DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his colleagues, family and friends as they recognize Charles for his commitment to a successful career and extend best wishes for a healthy and happy retirement.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventeenth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State